
Washington Climate Change Challenge

Climate Advisory Team

Summary of Eighth Meeting

Friday, January 25, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Heritage Room, Olympia, WA

Meeting documents are available on the Washington Climate Change website:

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/cat_documents.htm

Overview of the Washington Climate Change Challenge

Governor Chris Gregoire declared Washington's commitment to address climate change on February 7, 2007, by signing Executive Order No. 07-02. The Executive Order establishes goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), increasing clean energy jobs, and reducing expenditures on imported fuel. It also specifies objectives for preparing for climate change impacts, coordinating regionally and nationally, and advancing public outreach and awareness. The Executive Order directs the Washington Departments of Ecology (Ecology) and Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) to lead the Washington Climate Change Challenge, a process that will engage business, community and environmental leaders in considering the full range of policies and strategies that may be adopted to achieve the goals established by Governor Gregoire.

Ecology and CTED have formed the Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT) to assist with the development of specific action-oriented recommendations for climate change mitigation and GHG reduction policies for Washington. This broad-based group of Washington leaders is charged with developing a comprehensive set of state-level policy recommendations to deliver to Ecology and CTED by January 2008.

The Makeup of the Climate Advisory Team

The Climate Advisory Team includes: co-chairs Jay Manning (Ecology) and Juli Wilkerson (CTED); and members Rod Brown (Washington Environmental Council), Reverend Alexander J. Brunett (Archbishop of Seattle), Vicky Carwein (WSU Tri Cities), Senator Jerome Delvin (Washington State Legislature, ex-officio), Representative Doug Ericksen (Washington State Legislature, ex-officio), KC Golden (Climate Solutions), Dennis Hession (City of Spokane), Sara Kendall (Weyerhaeuser), Bill Kidd (BP), Mike Kreidler (Office of the Insurance Commissioner), Chad Kruger (WSU Center for Sustaining Agriculture & Natural Resources), Representative Kelly Linville (Washington State Legislature, ex-officio), Jim Lopez (King County), Dennis McLerran (Puget Sound Clean Air Agency), Bill Messenger (Washington State Labor Council), David Moore (Boeing), Steve Nicholas (City of Seattle), Larry Paulson (Port of Vancouver), Senator Craig Pridemore (Washington State Legislature, ex-officio), Michael Rawding (Microsoft), Aaron Reardon (Snohomish County), Steve Reynolds (Puget Sound Energy), Rich Riazzi (Chelan County PUD), Mike Rousseau (Alcoa), Doug Sutherland (Department of Natural Resources), Terry Uhling (Simplot), and Terry Williams (Tulalip Tribe).

Each caucus of the House and the Senate has named liaisons to the CAT. Representative Doug Ericksen and Senator Jerome Delvin have been appointed to represent the Republican Caucus, and Representative Kelli Linville and Senator Craig Pridemore have been appointed to represent the Democratic Caucus.

Project management for the CAT is being provided by Janice Adair (Ecology) and Tony Usibelli (CTED).

Meeting Objectives and Attendance

The Climate Advisory Team (CAT) held its eighth meeting on January 25, 2008, at the Heritage Room in Olympia, WA. The meeting was open to the public.

All members were present at the eighth meeting except Rev. Alexander J. Brunett (Sister Sharon Park, alternate), Representative Doug Ericksen, Kelli Linville (Maralyn Chase, alternate), Michael Rawding, Aaron Reardon (Sego Jackson, alternate), Steve Reynolds (Ken Johnson, alternate), Mike Rousseau (Jodie Read, alternate), and Terry Uhling (Craig Smith, alternate). Members of the public and interested stakeholders in attendance included private citizens and representatives from the Technical Working Groups, Preparation and Adaptation Working Groups, Boeing, Quinault Nation, Climate Solutions, Snohomish County, Tacoma Power, CH2MHill, Sierra Club, NPR, Transportation Choices Coalition, Green Conversion Systems, CRI, WSPA, Washington PUD Association, Weyerhaeuser, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, WSDOT, Department of Ecology, and CTED.

There were five objectives for the meeting:

1. Discuss activities related to climate change in the 2008 Legislative Session.
2. Meet with Governor Gregoire to discuss the CAT findings and recommendations.
3. Review the draft recommendations on how Washington can prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
4. Review and affirm the final interim CAT report.
5. Discuss the future work of the CAT, including the continuation of the CAT through the end of 2008 and the continued role of the CAT to assist in policy and program development.

Welcome

The CAT Co-Chairs welcomed the CAT members to the final CAT meeting for the 2007 phase of work. The Co-Chairs noted that they would save their thanks for the end, but indicated appreciation for the participation at the meeting and the important activity that has been generated from the CAT's work, including legislation moving forward in the 2008 session.

2008 Legislative Session Update

The CAT Co-Chairs provided an update on activities related to climate change in the 2008 Legislative Session.

There is a coalition of support from a group of environmental and business leaders for SB 6516/HB 2815, *Regarding greenhouse gas emissions and providing for green collar jobs*, the Governor's request legislation. The bill sets the stage for comprehensive climate policies to be delivered in 2009. SB 6308, *Preparing for and adapting to climate change*, addresses the adaptation work necessary in preparing for the impacts of climate change by asking Ecology to develop a group to recommend major policy strategies and identify lead agencies to address adaptation in the State. Other bills being considered include legislation to address the impacts of climate change through the growth management act and to create a carbon tax. There are additional bills that indirectly address climate change, such as legislation for toxics recycling and waste reduction.

Washington is also tracking legislative developments at the national level, and will monitor opportunities to provide input into the development of a national system in order to best ensure Washington's economy is advantaged by any national system.

Meeting with Governor Gregoire

Governor Gregoire thanked every member of the CAT and those they represent for their dedication, time and energy. When Governor Gregoire issued the Executive Order last year, she was asked, what can one little state do? She noted her answer was "lead", and now Washington has been joined by other western states, Canadian provinces, and one Mexican State. Midwestern states are joining in. The Governor noted that as she talks to other states, she does not get the feeling that their efforts are unified in the same way as Washington. She thanked Jay and Juli for standing up to the formidable challenge that she issued. She asked the CAT to continue to lead the nation and continue the work they began a year ago. There is more work ahead to reduce emissions that contribute to climate change, grow the green economy, and prepare for the impacts of climate change. The Governor stressed the importance of the CAT continuing to work together with the same collaborative spirit that has already led to so much progress.

CAT members thanked the Governor for her leadership, and complemented the approach taken by the State not only in developing a path forward, but in the process in which it has been done. A member noted that Washington has distinguished itself with the level of stakeholder involvement and engagement, and encouraged the State to continue that level of engagement and inclusivity. Another member noted the parallel process of adaptation, and the importance of that effort combined with the work of the CAT. The importance of biodiversity in addressing climate change and adaptation was noted by another member. The CAT complemented the State on both the State-focused effort and the work through WCI, and stressed that success on both fronts will require proper staffing and resources. Resources need to be dedicated to Ecology, CTED and State government to allow Washington to continue its leadership role.

Preparation and Adaptation Working Group Outcomes

Janice Adair introduced the Preparation and Adaptation Working Group (PAWG) leads, who represent a cross-agency effort structured across five impact sectors. The CAT acknowledged Tom Clingman from Ecology (Coastal and Infrastructure PAWG), Kirk Cook from the Department of Agriculture (Agriculture PAWG), Greg Grunenfelder from the Department of Health (Human Health PAWG), Tom Laurie from Ecology (Water Resources and Quality), and Craig Partridge from the Department of Natural Resources (Forest Resources PAWG).

Over 100 people participated in the PAWG process. The PAWGs identified critical strategic areas of adaptation, including emergency preparedness and response, planning, monitoring and surveillance, education/engagement and outreach, and institutional flexibility. Overarching themes from the preparation and adaptation recommendations include the need for early actions while continuing to improve scientific knowledge; the need to develop common planning scenarios and processes; and the need to focus on biological functions and processes. Given the need to integrate adaptation into existing programs and protect existing infrastructure, developing and implementing effective adaptation measures creates institutional challenges. Adaptation requires a different approach to thinking about issues such as water management, environmental protection, biodiversity, and infrastructure investments. There is a lot of work remaining, and the PAWG recommendations form the foundation for a continued effort.

Public Comment

One member of the public in attendance provided comment to the CAT:

Phillip Schmidt-Patamann, Green Conversion Systems, has been focusing on the GHG reduction potential from local waste management. Germany has switched from landfilling to alternative waste technologies, resulting in higher GHG reductions than all other renewables combined. He suggested that this is an issue that needs to be considered in Washington, where we landfill 95% of our waste. Waste-to-energy plays a vital role and can provide consistent power, unlike solar or wind. There is a facility in Spokane that is producing renewable energy. There are six hundred facilities worldwide. Washington is still not paying the full costs of our waste. The cost of maintaining a landfill in Europe, if it were still legal, is more expensive than waste energy. A report in Der Spiegel recently, *Food or Fuel? Producing*, noted that pursuing fuel from food endangers the food supply. Waste energy works immediately and is a proven concept, with much higher GHG reductions and energy gains than are currently estimated.

CAT Review and Affirmation of the Final Interim Report

The CAT reviewed and discussed the final interim report. Two versions of the report were distributed to the CAT prior to the meeting, a tracked-changes version and a clean version. At the meeting, an errata sheet was distributed to the CAT, capturing a few additional changes. Changes to the report in the updated version were made on the basis of some public comments to improve clarity and accuracy, as well as reference to the nature of public comments received. A memo from Senator Delvin was also distributed to the CAT at the meeting along with an attachment from the Heartland Institute prepared for Senator Delvin. Senator Delvin requested

that these materials be appended to the report, which the CAT affirmed as a courtesy to Senator Delvin as a participating, non-endorsing member of the CAT.

CAT affirmed that the discussion in the report around the 2000-2001 dip in GHG emissions triggered in part by a downturn in the aluminum industry was intended only to provide a historical description of the inventory, and not to single out one particular industry as it recovers economically. In its entirety, the report describes how all of Washington is in this together on the basis of the State's current economic orientation. Clarifications were noted to the table laying out the cumulative GHG emissions reductions and costs of options, updates to the description of RCI-3 in the appendix to match the language used in the body of the report, and insertion of "and workplace level" to clarify that there are also significant opportunities to provide recycling in the workplace. The final report will include the changes discussed by the CAT.

Each CAT member in attendance, and the participating representatives for absent CAT members, commented on the report and their level of support for it. All members commended the work of the group and the outcome of the process. Members noted the importance of the process in bringing the group together and creating a level of trust that allowed for the development of collaborative solutions, and thanked Jay and Juli for coordinating the effort. Several members expressed thanks for the opportunity to participate, and noted their enthusiasm in continuing to participate in 2008. The CAT concluded by agreeing to amend the title of the interim report to be more reflective of their work, and changed it to "Leading the Way". Members signed a coversheet to signal their endorsement of the final interim report.

Future Work of the CAT

The meeting concluded with a discussion about the continuation of the CAT through the end of 2008. Over the course of 2007, the CAT came together as a group of independent advisors, and as one member nodded, then became a team with a common mission that has made a significant contribution to addressing the State's climate goals. As work continues over the course of 2008, an iteration of the CAT will continue to meet and contribute towards policy and program development. The work of 2008 will be to translate and refine promising climate strategies into specific proposals for the 2009 legislative session and/or action by the Executive Branch. In considering what actions to move forward with, the CAT will consider what policies are discussed in the 2008 Legislative Session, and what work needs to be done to have a successful, detailed, and robust agenda for climate action in 2009 and beyond.

Given an interest in leveraging resources and allowing for consistent input into the processes, the CAT discussed how to support both the CAT and the work at WCI. The CAT noted that the process will be successful if the right people are being asked the right questions. The CAT will not be able to determine the outcome at WCI, but can understand what is occurring, provide input, and ultimately, hopefully, embrace the outcome. With the appropriate charge, boundaries and approach, there can be value in the CAT understanding what is going on and providing state-level input for WCI. The challenge for WCI will be to set aside parochial differences at the regional level, and the CAT can support those conversations if given a structure for dialog.

The CAT as a whole will meet periodically in 2008 to monitor the progress of Implementation Working Groups (IWGs), organized by either sector or 'headline' or strategy focus. Additional IWGs may be formed to work on overall implementation costs and potential funding sources, as well as cap-and-trade. The CAT will take a big picture view, and assess the ability of a package

of policies to make meaningful contributions to meeting the State's goals. The work will resume in April, and be completed no later than October 2008. It will be important for the CAT to retain its ability to collectively assess a meaningful path forward. The CAT will focus on a few critical issues in order to focus on what is achievable given the CAT's priority, timing, and the capacity to move into action by 2009.

The CAT Co-Chairs closed the meeting by thanking all the members and staff, participants, and consultants, for their involvement and hard work in completing a successful phase of work.

Document Appendix

The following materials were distributed to CAT members at the meeting (these materials can also be found on the Washington Climate Change website and at the links provided below).

January 25, 2008 CAT Meeting Agenda

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/CATdocs/1252008Agenda.pdf

January 25, 2008 CAT Meeting Presentation

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/CATdocs/012508_presentation.pdf

Final Draft Interim Report (January 23, 2008 version)

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/CATdocs/1232008CleanCATReport.pdf

Appendix XX: Minority Response to the CAT

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/CATdocs/AppendixXX%20MinorityResponse.pdf

Public Comment Themes

www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/CATdocs/1232008Publiccommentthemes.pdf